



Barcroft News

September 2019

Vol 117, Issue 1

Learn About Urban Agriculture Best Practices

Join Arlington Friends of Urban Agriculture at Barley Mac in Rosslyn on Thursday, October 3 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. for food and refreshments, and to learn how to accelerate urban agriculture initiatives in Arlington.

Special guest speaker Wythe Marschall, a national expert in vertical and indoor farming, will lead a discussion on how we can transplant best practices from New York City and European cities to grow a sustainable, just and secure food system in Arlington. Many people believe that cities, not nations, must lead the way in greening the built world. Wythe will talk about how different public and private institutions



can intervene to build a resilient future that includes producing food in an urban setting. This is a timely discussion for Arlingtonians given Amazon's imminent social and physical transformation of Crystal City, the region's commercial and mixed-residential building boom, and the County's renewed commitment to environmental stewardship.

County Board Member Erik Gutshall will present the annual Arlington proclamation on urban agriculture while guests enjoy a locally-sourced, bespoke drink and food menu (for purchase) curated by Barley Mac's Executive Chefs Mike Cordero and Jeremy Magnanelli.

The event is free and open to the public. Questions and inquiries can be sent to arlingtonurbanag@gmail.com. •

Next Community Meeting

Thursday, September 5, 7:30, Barcroft Community House

Topic: Summer Updates and New Neighborhood Issues



Barcroft News

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Next Deadline: September 15, 2019

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NCAC Alternate: Neal Martin

Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates: Eric Harold, Chris-
topher Hoh, Chris Kupczyk, Randy Swart *Alter-
nates:* Joseph Knarich, David Michelson, Mark
Wigfield

President's Message

By Gary Mason

With this issue of Barcroft News the “dog days” of summer are behind us and, perhaps, the worst of the season’s heat and humidity -- and thunderstorms! I suspect many of us won’t soon forget the record-setting rainfall from the July 8, 2019 supercell thunderstorm; more than three inches at Reagan Washington National Airport and perhaps as much as five inches along Columbia Pike just west of our neighborhood, where some residents and businesses are still recovering. (We should count ourselves fortunate.)

The Barcroft National Night Out and Ice Cream Social on August 6 was successful by any measure: 46 neighbors of all ages came out together with four officers from the Arlington Police Department, two representatives from the Virginia Department of Corrections, as well as Delegate Patrick Hope and County Board member Libby Garvey. We went through nearly 5 gallons of ice cream and 4 liters of root beer (for floats).

The arrival of September signals the end of our summer hiatus in BSCL monthly meetings. So, if you haven’t already, mark your calendar for 7:30 p.m., Thursday, September 5 for the next upcoming monthly meeting.

This month also heralds the ap-

Continued on page 4

Back to School at Barcroft Elementary

By Beth Ragnauth

Barcroft Elementary students were back to school on August 7, ready to fulfill their motto to work hard, get smart, have fun, and be kind. We celebrated the conclusion of the first week back with a lively family picnic on Friday, August 9; it was great to see so many families, teachers, and staff in attendance! Stay tuned for details about our annual chalk for peace event; it's a great chance for the whole community to come together. The date will be circulated on the BSCL email group.

We would be delighted to have community support at our District Taco fundrais-

er Wednesday, September 11 - a portion of sales from the Bailey's Crossroads location from 4 to 10 p.m. will be donated to the PTA to fund support activities for the school.

Neighbors can also support Barcroft through Harris Teeter's VIC program; ask the cashier to connect your VIC card to Barcroft (our code is 4238) next time you're shopping, and a portion of your purchases will be donated to the Barcroft PTA throughout the year. Remember, you have to link your card each year. With a new Harris Teeter opening soon right in our neighborhood, it's an easy way to support the school! •

Film Screening With Barcroft Connections

Come one, come all — It's FREE.

Award-winning film maker Loki Mulholland, raised in Barcroft, will have his film "Black, White, and Us" shown in the Arlington Central Library Auditorium on Saturday

morning, September 28, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. He will be there -- along with his mother Joan Mulholland and Delegate Patrick Hope. His books and movies will be available for purchase. •

BSCL Election Updates

At the May Barcroft School and Civic League community meeting elections were held for a new slate of officers. The outcome was as follows: There were no nominations made at the meeting. Gary Mason was elected President. Ken Simpson was elected Vice

President. Jennifer Lis was re-elected Treasurer. Joanne Rodewald was re-elected Membership Secretary. No candidates stood for Recording Secretary. Eric Parker was re-elected to the Board. All elections were unanimous. •

Street Sweeping Schedule for Barcroft

By Deborah Wood

The schedule for Arlington County's 2019-2020 street sweeping program has been announced. This year, due to budget restrictions, street sweeping will be done a total of four times, instead of seven. The first pass took place on August 6. The remaining three will take place on the following Tuesdays in Barcroft:

- October 8, 2019
- April 7, 2020
- June 9, 2020

Arlington's street sweeping program removes debris and pollutants from the streets before they wash into streams that feed into the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay. The program is part of County efforts to improve the health of our watershed. Because it will be done fewer times this season, for the days that street cleaning is scheduled, please be sure to park vehicles in driveways, and not to have any piles of yard debris on the street. •

President's Message, continued

Continued from page 2

proaching completion of the Centro Arlington mixed-use commercial and residential development at the southeast corner of our neighborhood: Columbia Pike and South George Mason Drive. This development will not only bring new residents to our neighborhood with its 360 apartments, but additional conveniences: Harris Teeter, Orangetheory Fitness and a WhyHotel – and perhaps a dentist or optician. The Harris Teeter is scheduled to open in October in place of the former Food Star; it will fill something of a gap created by the recent closure of the Safeway at Bailey's Crossroads and ahead of the pending temporary closure of the Harris Teeter near Ballston.

Hope to see you at our September 5 meeting! •



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Dues News: September Update

By Joanne Rodewald, Membership Secretary

Did you participate in the recent ice cream social at the Community House or march in or watch the Barcroft 4th of July parade? Did you receive your hand delivered copy of the Barcroft News? If so, you can thank the dues paying members in our neighborhood who help support these and other activities that make this a great community to live in.



team. It is only \$5 per individual or \$10 for a family membership to join/renew. Your participation does make a difference!

The application form is available in this newsletter and online at our website at <http://www.bscl.org/membership>.

Please check the current membership roster, and if you haven't already paid your BSCL dues for 2019, please join today. Cash or

I encourage you to be a part of the check accepted. •

"Rate" My Mortgage!

You've probably heard about the home-buying frenzy that has occurred in our market this year. Most are crediting Amazon's big move into Arlington, but is there more to the story?

"Mortgage rates are hovering as low as 3.5 to 3.75%," says DC metro area mortgage originating powerhouse, Heather Devoto of First Home Mortgage. "These rates are some of the lowest we've seen in years, and that translates to lower monthly payments for buyers who are choosing to lock those rates in now."

Lower mortgage rates don't just mean good news for first time buyers. For homeowners, it may also be a great opportunity to upgrade to a new space or refinance an existing mortgage and reduce monthly payments. What would you do with a few hundred extra dollars a month?

For more information about how to apply for your mortgage loan, contact Heather directly at hdevoto@firsthome.com or 703-388-0095.

To schedule an appointment and learn about the advantages of listing or purchasing with us, as well as a free market analysis, contact Rick and Ryan today.

We love helping our Barcroft neighbors!



Trent Heminger
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AutumnFest at Glencarlyn Library Garden

One of the secrets known to good gardeners is how great a time Fall is for planting, especially trees and shrubs. AutumnFest at Glencarlyn Library Community Garden on Sunday, September 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. will provide garden lovers with a myriad of plants that will thrive in the Fall garden, as well as provide three educational opportunities and nature-related products.

Located at 300 South Kensington Street in Arlington, this Master Gardener demonstration garden will once again host an autumnal family celebration, including free herbal treats to taste, face painting, and herbal sachets to make and take home. A naturalist will be on hand with a critter, Tree Stewards, Master Gardeners and Audubon at Home will all be there to answer questions and provide helpful information.

AutumnFest also offers a chance to visit the oldest house in Arlington, the Ball-Sellers House, a farm home from the 1740s with a wonderful garden. Visitors to the Ball-Sellers home can create an herbal craft project and enjoy a tasty colonial treat.

Master Gardeners will provide helpful talks. The 11 a.m. talk is “Grow Your Own Herbal Tea,” at which participants can taste samples and take home recipes; the 12 noon talk is “Succulents for Small Spaces” providing guidance on making the most of this hot trend; and the 1 p.m. talk is “Container Gar-

dening Made Easy” providing guidance on creating beauty and growing food in pots.

Local vendors will be available providing native plants (Hill House Nursery), and pumpkins, blooming plants and herbs (Country Gardens). Other choices include handcrafted jewelry, T-shirts with artwork featuring butterflies and their host plants, recycled reusable bags, and artistic plant pots. The sale raises funds to keep the demonstration garden operating, and is free to the public. More information is available by emailing glencarlynlibrarygarden@gmail.com or calling 703-244-7309. •



Barcroft's local farmers market

**Barrett Elementary School
4401 N. Henderson Road**

<https://lubberrunfarmersmarket.org/>

**Saturdays, April – November
8 a.m. – 12 noon**

***Buy Fresh • Buy Local
Build a Healthy Community***

Almost Arlington Native Plant Sale

The North Alexandria Native Plant Sale featuring multiple vendors will be held on Saturday, September 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of The Church of St. Clement at 1701 North Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Come find native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade! Thirteen vendors from Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania will be hosted at this event, the largest native plant sale in the D.C. metro region!

Vendors are listed on the sale website at www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org

The sale is entirely organized and run

by volunteers. Questions? Contact Scott Knudsen at 571-232-0375 or sknudsen@earthlink.net. •

Are you on the Barcroft Neighborhood Chat List?

You can keep in touch with your neighbors, get meeting announcements and more.

To learn more, visit <https://www.bscl.org/chat-list>



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Greetings from OSLS

By OSLS National Junior Honor Society

This year on August 27 we opened our doors for the 67th time in Barcroft. We are continuing to accept applications for the 2019-2020 school year for grades PreK through 8th. The Pre-kindergarten class will continue to be in session Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We offer both before and after care. Stop by or call our school office if you have any questions or would like a tour. Check out our school website at osva.org.

We look forward to many activities throughout this new school year. Stay posted for upcoming events in which you can participate. •

Christine Hopkins

Your Barcroft Neighbor &
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Sunday School - Starting September 8 10 am

Our experienced teacher fosters Bible based education about Christian faith while incorporating active fun for children in kindergarten to 8th grade. You are welcome to come whenever you can. We also provide a professionally staffed child care facility for younger children during the 10 am service.

Blessing of the Backpacks - September 15 11 am

Join us at 11 am, after the 10 am service, when we will be blessing backpacks that the children are using for school this year. You are more than welcome to join us at the 10 AM service if you wish.

Family Game Night - September 21 7-9 pm

Bring a board, strategy or kid's game that you would like to play with old friends, neighbors, or new friends. We'll supply the hot chocolate and popcorn. Game nights are held the third Saturday of every month.

Outdoor Sunday Service - September 29 10 am

St. John's will have the regular Sunday 10 am service on the church grounds. Everyone is welcome to visit with us to participate or just see what our service is like, while enjoying the fall weather.

St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday Worship Services 8 am and 10 am

415 S. Lexington Street
Arlington, VA 22204

703-671-6834
rector@stjohnsarlingtonva.org

stjohnsarlingtonva.org



Neighbor to Neighbor Listings

These listings are free to BSCL members, and run on a space-available basis. The listings run for three issues unless removal, renewal or update is requested. Email listings and renewals to editor@bscl.org.

The 7th street trail entrance is ready! Is your bike? Offering a Quick Tune-up for \$30, Bike fitting for \$20 or cleaning for \$20. Call or email me for more details or other services. Zach 703-380-6227 or robbets4@gmail.com.

Private Drum Lessons in Barcroft: All ages/levels. Local musician offers instruction in Barcroft home studio on 3rd Street South. Unique, fully equipped studio with two full drum sets. Multiple styles--rock, jazz, classical, musical theatre. Complimentary 30-minute lessons or consultation. References provided. Email Mitchell at mitchbassmusic@gmail.com.

Life is a Beach: Dewey Beach, Delaware, a happy place. Two little yellow cottages by the sea. Pet friendly. Wireless, internet, TV. Second block from the ocean. Two bedrooms, maximum five. Park in front of screened porch. All ready, B&B style. Large outdoor shower and shaded yard, gas grill. Weekly and long weekends. D. Anderson. 302-228-3842.

Dull knives? Affordable kitchen knife sharpening: With my three years of knife and tool sharpening experience and competitive rates, razor sharp knives and tools could be yours without ever having to leave your home! Cost is one dollar per inch. (\$5 pick-up/delivery will be added for orders fewer than 4 knives/tools). \$35 deal for a knife set of 8. Knives accepted are: standard kitchen knives, serrated knives, and blender blades. (please no Japanese, or particularly expensive knives) Tools included are: scissors, hand planes, chisels, axes, and pocket knives. For more information or service contact Zach at 703-380-6227, or email at robbets4@gmail.com. •

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Barcroft School and Civic League
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July 2019 Regional Home Sales in Northern VA compared to July 2018. A total of 2,232 homes sold in July 2019, an increase of 0.90% above July 2018 home sales of 2,213.

Active listings decreased last month compared with 2018. Listings were down by about 31% below last year, with 2,630 active listings in July, compared with 3,837 homes available in July 2018. The average DOM for homes in July was 32 days, a decrease of 34.69% compared to the 49 DOM for homes in July 2018. The average home sale price rose by 1.58% compared with last July, to \$619,082. The July 2018 average price was \$609,460.

It is still a sellers' market in most areas, particularly those inside the beltway. Low interest rates continue to drive the demand for housing – with a realization that a buyer needs to be prepared and act quickly if a home shows well and is well priced.

Arlington County and Alexandria both showed a year-over-year decrease in the total number of units sold, at -9.52% & 17.03% respectively.

In July 2019, the average price of a property Arlington County (including condos, townhouses and single family) was \$684,000, up 4% from last July.

Barcroft sales this year (which include the townhouse communities), have seen an uptick compared to last year. 22 units have sold and settled in 2019 through July compared to 20 units in 2018 during the same period. The average closed price so far this year in Barcroft is \$811,443 compared to \$668,785 in 2018, which is a significant increase.

Is a potential move in your future? Let's get together to discuss your situation and discover how *you can save time and money!*

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